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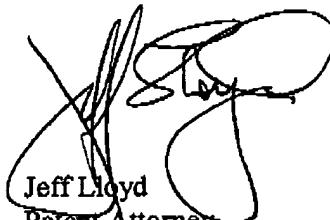
Docket No. NPB-100D5  
Serial No. 09/970,558Remarks

Claims 1-304 are pending in the subject application. By this Amendment, Applicants have added new claims 305-369. Support for new claims 305-369 can be found throughout the specification, for example, in Example 2. Entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested. Upon entry, claims 1-369 will be before the Examiner for his consideration.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account 19-0065 any fees under 37.CFR 1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper.

Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this Amendment, or if the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,



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JL/srp

Attachment: Amendment Transmittal Letter.